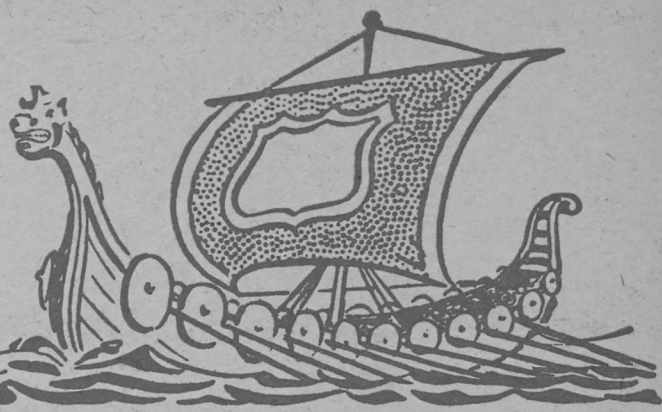


Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

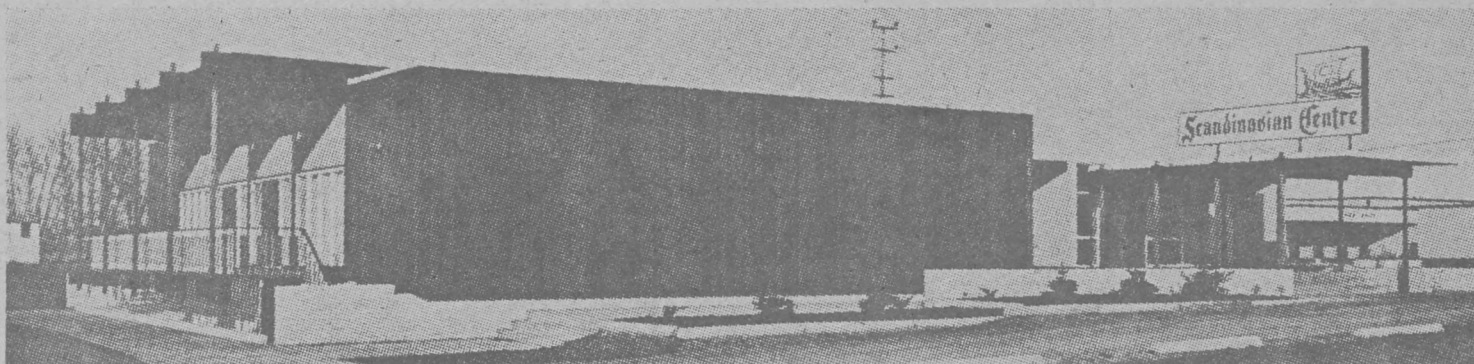
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TEN PAGES

DECEMBER, 1970



"First, keep the peace within yourself,
Then, you can also bring it to others.

Thomas A. Kempis

Almost six centuries have passed since these words were written, yet they are meaningful today.

Let us remember them at Christmas and throughout the New Year.

To the readers of The Scandinavian Centre News I send my greetings for a happy Christmas and a peaceful 1971" - PIERRE ELLIOTT TRUDEAU, Prime Minister of Canada

"Greetings and Best Wishes - God Jul Och Gott Nytt Ar" - HARRY E. STROM, Premier of Alberta

"Christmas Greetings to You All" - IVOR G. DENT, Mayor of Edmonton

"May Peace and Harmony Prevail During This Festive Season and Throughout 1971" -
SIG SORENSON, Honorary President of The Scandinavian Centre

"Season's Greetings on Behalf of the Board of Directors" - ELLSWORTH HALBERG, President of
The Scandinavian Centre

"A Merry Christmas To Everyone" - CLAUD JACOBSEN, President of the Danish Society "Dania"

"May You All Have a Joyous Christmas" - SIRKKA RISTOLA, President of the Finnish Society

"Health and Happiness Throughout This Festive Season" - EARL VALGARDSON, President of
The Icelandic Society

"A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year" - STAN HAFSO, President of the Sons of Norway
"Solglyt" Lodge

"Merry Christmas - Trevlig Helg" - LENNART PETERSSON, President of the Vasa Order of America

"A Very Merry Christmas To All" - Director, Managing Editor and Correspondents of
The Scandinavian Centre News

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

BY GUNNAR THORVALDSON

SCANDINAVIAN SHOW

Listen to The Scandinavian Show on Radio Station CFCW every Saturday morning at 10:30 - 790 kc on your AM dial. The Scandinavian Centre Report is broadcast on this program at approximately 11:25 a.m.

Claus Jacobsen will be giving the report in December. If you have something of interest for the broadcast, give Claus a call at 489-1494.

The report during January 1971 will be given by Gary Johnson.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE NEWS

The advertising rates of this paper will be increased January 1st. This is the first change in rates since the paper started. The five ethnic groups will continue to pay \$2.00 per column inch. The advertising will not apply to ads already paid for all others will be \$2.50 per

CHARTER FLIGHTS

Our charter flight program for next summer is filling up quite well. A very nice Christmas present for Mother and Dad would be a trip to the old country next summer. Phone the Centre if you want more information on flights.

SCANDAPADES

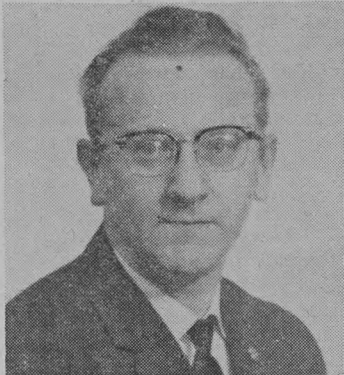
The annual Scandinavian show, Scandapades, is on February 27, 1971 - not far away! If you would like to help in any capacity, call Margaret Cameron at 455-2064. We'll need ticket sellers, stage assistants, set designers, set builders, etc.

MARTIN OSTEVIK WITH KING OF NORWAY



MARTIN OSTEVIK
WITH
KING OLAV VI

RADIO REPORTER



CLAUS JACOBSEN

column inch, except ads that are paid a full year in advance in which case it will be \$2.00. The increase per column inch. The advertising will not apply to ads already paid into the year 1971.

CHRISTMAS IN SCANDINAVIA

The Christmas season begins early in Scandinavia. The Finns are ahead of their neighbors and celebrate Little Christmas over the last weekend in November with dinner parties for family and friends.

In Stockholm, the Skansen Christmas Fair enlivens the first two Sundays in December. There you'll find dancers twirling . . . fiddlers playing by the firelight in the old farmhouse . . . ladies baking the traditional flatbread on iron griddles over the embers . . . while outside the old Julbocken chases the children around the gaily decorated stalls. Then on the thirteenth all Sweden celebrates St. Lucia's Day.

In the weeks before Christmas towns and villages all over Scandinavia are gay with fir branches - long graceful strands decorating shops and houses, perhaps with a delicate frosting of new snow. The streets and stores are thronged with shoppers and after dark the cities are a veritable fairyland of twinkling lights and flaming torches, and brightly lit Christmas trees in market places and squares.

DENMARK

Laughing, gift-laden shoppers ride home on streetcars decked with trees. In harbors, the ships - and even tugs and fishing boats - hoist Christmas trees to the masthead. And, of course, you'll remember Risengrod . . . the marzipan pig as a prize for finding the almond . . . the goose, stuffed to bursting with apples and prunes . . . the aroma from Rod Kaal. In Jutland, Funen, Zealand and Bornholm, it is Christmas in Denmark - and wonderful to be there!

FINLAND

Christmas trees appear in the market places around Little Christmas; the last Sunday in November, a big day for parties, carols, gingerbread snaps and Joulupuuro (Christmas porridge). You'll share with the children that great moment on Christmas eve when the candles are lit on the Christmas tree and Santa Claus arrives after his long trip from . . . where else but Korvatunturi in far Lapland! After a quiet family Christmas day you'll be ready for the fun on St. Stephen's with its traditional Tapanin Paiva horse races, visiting and dancing. Throughout the festive season your greeting in Finland will be "Haukskaa Joulua" - Merry Christmas!

NORWAY

Silver bells are ringing, and Julenek is put out in the snow for the birds. The soft white blanket lies over the town and country, and the sleighs go scrunching by. The candles are lit, and the choirs sing the traditional carols again. The children wait impatiently for Julenissen, for the tree with gifts, the nuts and candy. Friends and neighbors welcome you with coffee, fattermann and goro. In Norway, Christmas is the happiest time of the year!

SWEDEN

On December 13, you will enjoy Lussekatter and you'll see the old Julbocken. Christmas trees will be gay with stars and tinsel, with gifts heaped under the branches - each (More CHRISTMAS Page 3)

TREMENDOUS RESPONSE TO APPEAL

There has been a very good response to the appeal of The Scandinavian Centre News for the payment of \$1.00 per membership. Most persons sending in their levy include more than the minimum and some sending as much as \$10.00 (one individual sent \$50.00) as a donation to the paper to keep it going.

Many letters of encouragement arrive daily with money enclosed. Some so touching in their response that it makes you feel that there is no Scandinavian who is not behind the Centre and its newspaper.

There is no doubt that these contributions will get the paper out of its debts, and, with the raising of the advertising, the newspaper should be able to continue above level financially if managed astutely.

Even though the response has been good, we hope that those wishing to contribute will do so for we wish to expand and not to just stand still.

Thanks from the management and
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION TO THE PAPER

Oscar E. Kempe, Edmonton.
H. Moseng, Wainwright.
Carl Anderson, Drayton Valley.
Dr. Duncan M. Proudlock, Edmonton.

Dr. T. O. Walhovd, Edmonton.
Margaret Tetreau, Wetaskiwin.
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Mrs. Keith French, Hanna.
Henry Undheim, Yellowknife.
Mrs. C. Smith, Edmonton.
L. and L. O., Edmonton.
Mr. and Mrs. P. Utunen, Edmonton.

List of names of presidents of respective Scandinavian societies:

DANISH - Claus Jacobsen, 10981 - 164 St., 489-1494.

FINNISH - Sirkka Ristola, 13013 - 82 St., 476-3483.

ICELANDIC - Earl Valgardson, 6515 - 112A St., 434-6794.

NORWEGIAN - Stan Hafso, 9147 - 73 Ave., 433-1825.

SWEDISH - Lennart Petersson, 7412 - 87 Ave., 469-0259.

SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE - Ellsworth Halberg, 9627 - 81 St., 466-9344.

Scandinavian Centre News

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DIRECTOR

Mr. Gunnar Thorvaldson
6012 - 101A Ave. — 466-1570

MANAGING EDITOR

Mr. Leslie L. Morris
14220 - 125 Avenue — 455-4355

CORRESPONDENTS

Vasa Lodge Buford:
Mrs. Avis Pearson
R.R.3, Calmar Alberta

Danish Society "Dania":
Mrs. Vera Nielsen
12424 - 141 St. (41) — 454-5438

Finnish Society:
Mrs. Anne Sahuri
16112 - 104 Ave. (50) — 489-7515

Icelandic Society:
Mrs. Lillian MacPherson
7870 Jasper Avenue - 422-7557

Vasa Lodge Nordstjarnan:
Mr. Dan Edin
R.R. 1, Falun Alberta

Vasa Lodge Skandia:
Mrs. Joan Petersson
7412 - 87 Ave. (83) — 469-0259

Sons of Norway "Solglyt":
Mrs. Selma Sorenson
8909 - 77 Ave. (82) — 466-1839

ton.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Sahuri, Edmonton.

Finnish Society, Edmonton.
Mr. and Mrs. Bertil Pearson.
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A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

BY LILLIAN MacPHERSON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Meeting: Friday, Dec. 4. 8:00 P.M., at Lucille Oddson's.

Bake Sale: The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Edmonton Icelandic Society is holding a sale of baked goods and candy at the Bonnie Doon Shopping Centre, Friday, December 4, starting at 11:00 a.m. Vinarterta will be featured. A good time to stock up on goodies for Christmas!

Christmas Concert: The annual Christmas Concert will be December 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Viking Room at the Scandinavian Centre. The Cultural Committee will be delighted to receive offers of talent to perform at the concert. If you or your children wish to contribute to the celebration please phone either 455-2064 or 434-6037.

Saga Singers: The Saga Singers have begun to sing again under the able direction of Della Roland. They have received a request from the Winnipeg Icelanders to contribute a tape for an ethnic radio broadcast, so regular Sunday evening practices have begun to prepare for this. New members are welcome, and would be greatly appreciated. If you love to sing and enjoy pleasant company, please join us. For further information, call Della Roland at 433-3393 or Ninna Campbell at 476-0482, or any other member of the choir.

Marino and Phyllis Kristjanson are having an open house in honor of Marino's parents, Hakon and Gudny Kristjanson of Regina, on Sunday, Dec. 20 from 2:00 - 9:00 p.m. All Edmonton Icelanders are invited. The address is: 12303 - 39 Avenue.

The Fall Dance was enjoyed by all those in attendance, and many arrived in delightful costumes. The

judges had a difficult time choosing the winners. For dress, a pirate and his lady were awarded the prize; for originality, a headless man and his executioner, complete with chopping block and axe won the prize; and the comics were the flying nun and an old granny.

Mickey Shaw underwent surgery at the Royal Alexandra Hospital on Nov. 12. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Belle Hogan, Martha Arnason's mother, from Aldergrove, B.C., visited here with the Arnason's for 10 days. She came with Martha's brother Paul and his wife Myrtle, who also spent some time here. The Arnason's were pleased to see the wonderful slides of the trip Paul and Myrtle took this spring, when they travelled to Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Hawaii.

Mrs. Nordal, Jo Couves' mother, from Arborg, Man., is here staying with the Couves' for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Lawrence celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on the 19th of October. While their son Bob and his wife Karen took them out to a specially-arranged dinner at the Beachcomber their daughter, Barbara, set up a surprise party at home with a two-tiered wedding cake and flowers, and a room full of friends and relatives. Mrs. Lawrence is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Gislason.

Congratulations to Miss Theresa (Terri) Crawford for winning the Queen Elizabeth Award of \$50.00. It was awarded to her for the highest marks in her class of Dietary Technology at NAIT. Terri is making her internship at the Charles Camsell Hospital and will serve

some time working at the Hospital at Brooks. Terri is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Crawford, formerly of Calling Lake, now living in Edmonton.

Mrs. Carrie Wood is recuperating at her daughter Margaret Mottershed's home after several weeks in the General Hospital. The reason was a broken hip which she obtained during a fall at the place of her employment. Our best wishes go out to you, Carrie. May you soon be able to throw away the crutches.

Mr. Don Cameron motored to Calgary to attend the 25-year-member club of Dominion Bridge Co. Ltd., held Nov. 6 and 7.

Doreen Joachim was a vocal winner at the recent Performing Arts Awards Program sponsored by the City of Calgary. She received a cash prize and the opportunity to give a full recital, which is scheduled for January 29 in the Pleiades Theatre at the Calgary Planetarium. Congratulations, Doreen!

Mr. and Mrs. Sigurdur Arason of International Falls, Minn. celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 27. Walter and Beulah Arason and their daughter, Bev, flew to Minnesota for the celebration, which took the form of a banquet for relatives and friends. Walter proposed the toast to his parents.

Mrs. Diane Slater, Clara Jonsson's sister from St. Boniface, Man., came to Edmonton for Clara's convocation from the University of Alberta. She attended the Hallowe'en dance at the Scandinavian Centre while she was here.

Change of address: Ila Henrickson has moved to 9407 - 77 St. Her new phone number is 466-1547.

CHRISTMAS

(Continued From Page 2)

with a poem which must be read aloud! There'll be Lutfisk to delight you at the table. — and risgrynsgrot with an almond for the first to be married. And heart-warming glogg, just in case it's cold outside. Then parties, the New Year's celebration, and festivities continue till St. Hilary's day on January 13th.

THE LUCIA LEGEND AND FESTIVITIES

The story of Lucia is one of the most colorful in Scandinavian folklore. Lucia was born of noble parentage in Syracuse, Sicily, and raised in the Christian faith. As a girl she secretly vowed to dedicate her life to God and distribute her wealth among the poor, but her mother sought to marry her to a pagan of important family and great wealth. Lucia refused, because of her vow. The rejected suitor had Lucia brought to trial as a Christian. She was accused of witchcraft and died a martyr's death at the stake on December 13, 304 AD.

Lucia means light. During Lucia's persecution her eyes were put out but were miraculously restored. Thus Lucia became the patron saint of those with eye afflictions. She is always portrayed as the Queen of Light. The Lucia legend is linked with Sweden for two reasons. Under the old Julian calendar Lucia's Feast Day, December 13th, was the shortest day of the year. At a time of great famine in the province of Varmland, a large vessel appeared on Lake Vanern, and at its helm stood a beautiful maiden in a gleaming white robe, her head encircled by a crown of radiant beams. As the vessel touched the shore, large quantities of food and clothing appeared. Then, when everyone had been cared for, the ship disappeared as quickly as it had come.

St. Lucia's feast day and the return of light after a dark winter has been celebrated in Stockholm since 1655.

On St. Lucia's Day, families all over Sweden are awakened by a Lucia, usually the oldest daughter of the family, singing the old Sankta Lucia song. She is dressed in a white robe and wears a crown of green leaves and lighted candles.

The biggest public celebration takes place in Stockholm where hundreds of girls compete for the honor of becoming the Stockholm Lucia.

The Lucia tradition has, of course, a deeper meaning. The return of light becomes a symbol of faith and hope to mankind.

NORWEGIAN POSTDOCTORATE FELLOWSHIPS 1971 - 72

The Royal Norwegian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research announced that fellowships will be granted for the academic year 1971-1972 to young foreign scientists who wish to undertake research work in the fields of science and engineering in Norwegian institutes. Fellowships will be granted for a full year of study and research, and applications for a second year will be favorably considered.

Last year 26 scientists from abroad went to Norway under this program to undertake postdoctoral work. For additional information, write the Norwegian Embassy Information Service, 3401 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.



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SCANDAPADES '71 NEEDS HELP

Work has started on preparing the Scandinavian show, Scandapades, but more volunteer help is needed if we are to make this effort a real success!

We need:

Stage hands
Display makers
Makeup people
Talent
Ticket sellers
Lunch servers
Etc.

If you wish to help in any way, please phone your coordinator, Margaret Cameron at 455-2064.

The best way for a housewife to have a few minutes to herself at the close of the day is to start doing the dishes.

CHRISTMAS FLIGHTS GROUNDED. LACK OF SUPPORT

It was a great disappointment that the Scandinavian Centre had to announce the cancellation of their Christmas Flights to Copenhagen, Denmark and Oslo, Norway. Those who had made reservations must have been equally disappointed.

It was due to the fact that the Centre was unable to get enough members to make the trip at this time. It was thought that at least one of the two flights would have been able to become filled, but unfortunately it was not to be.

All those who sent money for these fares have been or will be refunded every cent.

If other arrangements wish to be made just contact The Scandinavian Centre Travel Department through Maurice J. Saad, Marlin Travel Service, 210 McLeod Bldg., 10132 - 100 St., Edmonton, Alta., Phone 429-0891.

There are three spring and summer charter flights leaving for Scandinavia. See the advertisement

concerning these. Let's get behind the Scandinavian Centre and promote these flights so that we may be able to give inexpensive travel service overseas in the future. If you are planning to go to Scandinavia this summer, make a point to book as soon as possible so that we may be sure of getting these flights off the ground.

Take an active interest in The Scandinavian Centre and support the flight programs!



CANADA

THE COURT OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP OF NORTHERN ALBERTA will convene in the Courtroom at the following centres during December, 1970: Camrose, 15 December; Red Deer, 17 December; Vegreville, 29 December. Edmonton area residents may call or write the Court at Room 424, 9828 - 104 Avenue, Edmonton, telephone 424-0251, Ext. 518/519.

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VASA LODGE SKANDIA



BY JOAN PETERSSON

The November meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia was held Wednesday, November 4 in the Dania Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Chairman Lennart Petersson opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Sick members included Michael Skoog of Lethbridge, John Anderson, Roy Samuelson, Jim Mickelson, Clarence Knutson, Matt Eliason, and Evelyn Modin.

The Costume Dance held after the meeting October 3 was a lot of fun, thanks to Emil and Millie Weiss.

A novel idea for entertainment after meetings has been devised by Betty Pearson and Joyce Hawkes. Different groups, such as the Drill Team, Sports Club, and Land Committee, will organize activities for the evening. Sounds like a good way to get more people involved.

The Smorgasbord was a success with around 375 persons being served. Lennart Petersson and Betty Pearson extend thanks to all who helped.

The films on Sweden will not be available at this time because they must be returned to Ottawa before November 21.

Leftover Smorgasbord provided a delicious lunch after the meeting. Bingo, organized by Linda and Marvin Weiss, followed.

* * *

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, December 3:

7:00 p.m. The regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia will be held in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre. Election of officers for the 1971 term will be conducted. Your vote is important, so please attend!

9:00 p.m. Christmas is a time for cheer,

For family, food, and song,

To set the mood for end of year,
We bid you come along

To see just how a table looks
With traditional Swedish fare.
The W.A. has real good cooks,
Who hope to see you there.
The Viking Room at nine o'clock,
Will be the place to be.

So everyone just don a frock,
And come along and see!

Sunday, December 13:

7:00 p.m. The Lucia Pageant will be held at Kirk United Church, 13535 - 122 Ave., under the direction of Gertie Holmgren and Verna Larson.

Sunday, December 20:

2:00 p.m. Santa Claus is coming to visit the children as they dance around the Christmas Tree in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. All Vasa members and their families are welcome.

Saturday, January 9:

7:00 p.m. Regular monthly meeting of Vasa Lodge Skandia will be held in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. The officers for the 1971 term of office will be installed.

9:00 p.m. The Vasa Singers will provide the entertainment following the meeting.

VASA GLIMPSES

Roy Samuelson wishes to thank all of the people who visited him during his recent illness.

* * *

Robert Hanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Hanson, was married on Saturday, November 28, in a ceremony at Prince of Peace Church in St. Boniface, Man. Congratulations and best wishes for the future are extended to Bob and Yvonne.

* * *

Evelyn and Willard Modin are back from visiting their son, Wayne, and family, in Toronto.

* * *

GOD JUL OCH GOTT NYTT AR

JULGLOGG GROG RECIPE

- 1 Bottle Swedish aquavit or Vodka
- 2 Bottles burgundy
- ¾ cup raisins
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon cardamon seeds
- ½ teaspoon whole cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 small piece lemon peel

Pour ½ of aquavit or vodka and all of the burgundy into a large saucepan. Add raisins and sugar. Tie spices in cheesecloth and drop into wine mixture. Cover pan, bring VERY SLOWLY to the boiling point, let simmer 30 minutes. Add remaining aquavit or vodka. Remove from heat and put a match to glogg in saucepan. Using a long-handled ladle, pour hot glogg into punch glasses. Serve with raisins and almonds.

QUEEN'S INVITATION CAUSES RUMORS

Queen Elizabeth of Britain gave a luncheon party for Crown Prince Carl Gustav, 24-year-old bachelor prince of Sweden, and invited her 20-year-old daughter, Princess Anne, to attend. This started off rumors of romance between the young Swedish prince and British princess.

Similar rumors are not new around Buckingham Palace, a royal spokesman said. "Prince Carl Gustav has been mentioned before — as has about every marriageable prince in Europe," he said.

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat,
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men!"

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along
The unbroken song,
Of "Peace on earth, good will to men!"

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good will to men!"

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The wrong shall fail,
The right prevail
With peace on earth, good will to men!"

TILL RINGING, SINGING ON ITS WAY,
THE WORLD REVOLVED FROM NIGHT TO DAY, —
A VOICE, A CHIME,
A CHANT SUBLIME,
OF "PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TO MEN!"

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.



SWEDISH TEA RING RECIPE

Swedish Tea Ring makes 1 large ring.

- ¾ cup milk
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- ¼ cup very warm water
- 1 package or cake of yeast, active dry or compressed.
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 4 cups sifted flour (app.)
- 2 tablespoons melted butter or margarine
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- ½ cup raisins, optional

Scald milk; stir in sugar, salt and butter; cool to lukewarm. Measure very warm water into large bowl. Sprinkle or crumble in yeast; stir to dissolve. Stir in lukewarm milk mixture, beaten eggs and half the flour; beat until smooth. Stir in remaining flour to make soft dough. Turn out onto lightly floured board. Knead until smooth and elastic, about 8 minutes. Cover; let rise in warm place, free from draft, until doubled, about 45 minutes. Knead down. Cover; let rise until doubled, about 30 minutes. Turn dough out on lightly floured board. Roll into 18x9-inch rectangle. Brush with melted butter. Sprinkle with cinnamon and raisins (if desired); roll lengthwise. Shape roll into a ring on greased baking sheet; seal ends. Snip almost to centre at 1-inch intervals with scissors. Pull sections apart and twist slightly. Cover; let rise until half doubled, about ½ hour. Bake at 350° F 25 minutes. Frost with confectioners' sugar icing while warm. Decorate with nuts and maraschino cherries if desired.

Swedish adventurer Anders Svedlund has abandoned his attempt to row across the Indian Ocean to Africa. The 43-year-old house painter landed on Green Island, 130 miles north of Perth, Australia.

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NORWEGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER PROMOTES JOINING EEC

Foreign Minister Sverre Strøm of Norway opened his first major foreign policy survey to the Norwegian Storting in October with a discussion of Norway's application for membership in the European Common Market. He underlined that the expansion of EEC as a means of strengthening Europe should be seen in the context of East-West relations and that between Europe and the United States.

Mr. Strøm said that the question of organizing a conference on European security and cooperation is a central theme in current East-West relations. Foreign Minister Strøm reiterated the Government's view that such a conference must be held only after thorough preparations and at a time when all interested countries consider it desirable and propitious. The Government hopes that organized preparations for the security conference may soon be undertaken on a multilateral level.

News of Norway.

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY FOR CHRISTOPHERSEN'S

On November 26th Mr. and Mrs. C. Christophersen (Ida and Stoffer) celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in the Scandinavian Centre. They were married in Aalborg, Denmark in 1910, emigrated to Canada in 1913, lived a short time in Ottawa, Ont., before moving west to Winnipeg, Man. They call Winnipeg their home town, because they lived there 30 years. In 1945 they moved to Edmonton, so after 25 years here, it is almost home town — at least they don't intend to move anymore. Mr. Christophersen retired in 1962 from Haywards Lumber Co., he is an ex-curler and enjoys all kinds of sports. They are active members of the Ansgar Danish Lutheran Church, Honorary members of the Danish Society "DANIA".

There are seven children: Minna Melchior in Toronto, Ella Robertson in New Westminster, B.C., Alice McKelvey, Enid Dubois and Earl Christophersen — all of Winnipeg. Lily May and Dan Christophersen of Edmonton. 17 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren. Stoffer has two brothers in Los Angeles and Ida has a sister in Winnipeg and a brother in Texas. No family is left in Denmark; but they still love old Denmark and speak perfect Danish after 57 years in Canada.

DANIA DOINGS



BY VERA NIELSEN

"BIKUBEN" will hold their annual Christmas Party on December 14. Hope all you ladies will come so we can have a nice time together like other years. The ladies are to bring a small gift and some of their goodies for all of us to sample. The meeting will be at 12424 - 141 Street at 8:00 p.m., bring your good voice, so you can enjoy singing the old Christmas hymns and songs. Looking forward to seeing you all.

December 16th, a Wednesday evening, at 8:00 p.m. DANIA'S annual Turkey Bingo. Come and bring your friends, too. They are all welcome. The more the merrier! Who knows, you may be lucky enough to take your turkey, goose or duck home with you. Come to the Scandinavian Centre, Nordic Room. Mark your calendar for this important event. There will be NO Whistdrive in December, but we will play again on January 13th.

Our annual Christmas Party for the children for MEMBERS ONLY will be Sunday, December 20 at 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

"DANIA" held their annual general meeting on October 28th. The new elected directors are as follow: President Claus Jacobsen, Vice President Thomas Nielsen, Secretary Vera Nielsen, Treasurer Borge Hansen, Members at large Arne Kiel, Frovin Sorensen and Birthe Nielsen. Auditors Erik Pedersen and Thorvald Nielsen. Supplanter Tage Aaquist and Lili Corbett.

Have you renewed your membership for 1971? If not, please send it in right away. The price is \$5.00 per year for single or family. Use this coupon to send for your 1971 membership card for "DANIA". Enclose \$5.00. Send to the secretary, Vera Nielsen, 12424 - 141 Street, Edmonton 41, Alta.

NAME

ADDRESS

Phone



A very merry Christmas to all and a good and prosperous New Year. Glaedelig Jul.

NEW SCANDINAVIAN RECORD ALBUMS

Olav Sveen has a new long-playing record out and is being released on the London Label. It is called "Echoes of Scandinavia" and features waltzes, polkas, schottishes, hambos from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

With Olav on the record (who, of course, plays the accordion) are: Edwin Ericksson, accordion; Gil Erickson, guitar; and Don Dykeman, drums.

The cover photo was given to Olav by the Finnish Society of Edmonton.

A Centennial album of folk songs about Lake Winnipeg has been released as a personal project sponsored by an independent group of Lake Winnipeg young people. The colorful songs of Lake Winnipeg are another important piece in Manitoba's Centennial year cultural mosaic.

"The Lake Winnipeg Fisherman" is composed and sung by Sol Sigurdson, a native of Riverton, Man. The tunes are traditional folk tunes, played on the guitar by Mr. Sigurdson.

Songs such as the "Sinking of the Suzanne E" and "Remember the J. R. Spear" recount stories well-known to those living on the shores of Lake Winnipeg. The eight songs in the album were written by Mr. Sigurdson during the last six years.

Mr. Sigurdson is 34 years old, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin. He is currently professor of Mathematics and Education at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

Logberg-Heimskringla.

SCANDINAVIAN SEMINAR 1971 - 72

Scandinavian Seminar is now accepting applications for its study abroad program in Denmark, Finland, Norway, or Sweden for the academic year 1971-72. This living-and-learning experience is designed for college students, graduates and other adults who want to become part of another culture while acquiring a second language.

An initial 3-4 weeks language course, followed by a family stay, will give the student opportunity to practice the language on a daily basis and to share in the life of the community. For the major part of the year he is separated from his fellow North American students, living and studying among Scandinavians at a "People's College" (residential school for continuing adult education) or some more specialized institution.

All Seminar participants meet at the weeklong Introductory, Mid-year and Final Sessions, during which the American and Scandinavian Program Directors work closely with each student on matters related to his studies, experiences and progress. The focus of the Seminar program is the student's Independent Study Project in his special field of interest. More and more colleges and universities are giving full or partial credit for the Seminar year.

The fee, covering tuition, room, board and one-way transportation, is \$2,200. A limited number of scholarship loans are available. For further information write to SCANDINAVIAN SEMINAR, 140 West 57th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019.

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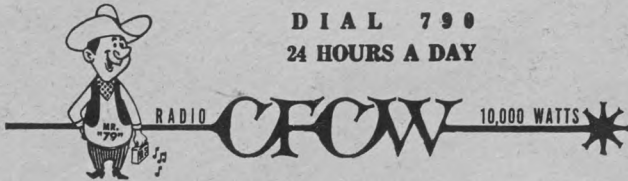
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**TOM NIELSEN
CELEBRATES
75th BIRTHDAY**



THORVALD (TOM) NIELSEN

The past manager of the Scandinavian Centre, Thorvald (Tom) Nielsen, celebrated his 75th birthday on Friday, Nov. 20. A surprise party was held for him at the Scandinavian Centre by relatives, friends and Dania people.

It was only in June, 1969, that Tom decided to call it a day as far as active work as manager of the Centre was concerned. He had been dealing with the many problems that helped to make the Centre a workable and solvent institution for the previous five years.

When the Centre opened its doors to business in June, 1964, Tom was there to make sure everything went smoothly. Even today, Sig Sorenson, the President at that time and now Honorary President, gives much credit to Mr. Nielsen for the way the Centre was run and the friendly atmosphere that the personable manager gave over the years of his presence.

Tom and his pleasant wife, Vera, have been associated with the Danish Society Dania and the Scandinavian Centre ever since its institution. Both have gained a reputation of gracious hospitality at all times.

Vera, too, has a birthday soon. It is on December 24. A woman's age is always a secret, so let us just say we hope they both have many more birthdays to come.



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- DEPOSIT:** \$100.00 per person must accompany each reservation. Cheques to be made payable to the Scandinavian Centre Flight Number. Reservation with cheque must be delivered or mailed to The Scandinavian Centre.
- REFUNDS:** Deposit will be refunded if the flight is cancelled. A person may cancel his or her reservation if notice is served in writing sixty days before departure of flight. Cancellation fee of \$10.00 will be charged.
- DOCUMENT:** Every passenger must be in possession of a valid passport and valid certificate of vaccination for smallpox.
- BAGGAGE:** Limit of 66 pounds per each fare.
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I am a member in good standing of the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Assoc. Yes ☐ No ☐

Date Signature

FINNISH SOCIETY



BY ANNE SAHURI

Finnish Society will hold a coffee party on Finland's Independence Day, Sunday, Dec. 6th, at the Scandinavian Centre, starting at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited.

Adults' Christmas party will be held on Dec. 12th at the Scandinavian Centre starting at 8:00 p.m. "Joulupuuro" will be served. Everyone is asked to bring a little gift for Santa's bag (about \$1.00 worth). Tickets are \$2.00 at the door, and a program is being rehearsed.

Children's Christmas party will be held on Dec. 13th at 2:00 p.m. at the Scandinavian Centre. Children are asked to take part in the program. Santa will be there and goodies will be served of course.

Reminder: membership fees payable to Vilho Ristola, 13013 - 82 St. phone 476-3483.

"We wish to express our sincere thanks to all our relatives, friends and acquaintances, also to Finnish Society for all the thoughtful expressions of sympathy during our

recent bereavement."

—Mrs. Elsa Heinonen and family.

Many thanks to Mrs. Bertha Rama who was the hostess of the October sewing circle.

"Many thanks to all who so thoughtfully remembered me during my stay in hospital."

— Helen Kauppila.

"My sincere thanks to Finnish Society and to all who visited or sent me flowers or cards during my recent stay in hospital. Special thanks to Pastor Lepisto who found time to visit me every day."

— Laila Kujala.

A miscellaneous bridal shower was held recently in honor of Wendy Arthur at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Karvonen. The bride-to-be received many beautiful and useful gifts. Miss Arthur is the fiancée of Arvi Liimatainen, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Liimatainen of Edmonton.

— HAUSKAA JOULUA —
— MERRY CHRISTMAS —

NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS

The 1970 Nobel Prize award for physics was divided between Hannes Alfvén of Sweden and Frenchman Louis Néel.

They receive a cash prize equivalent to about \$80,000, which will be divided between the two.

They received the award for fundamental discovery each has made about the nature of magnetism. Their complex discoveries have had wide application in several fields.

Announcing the award, the academy said Alfvén's studies laid the foundation of magneto-hydrodynamics, a field essential for the analysis of cosmic explosions.

Alfvén, 62, who works at the Royal Technical School in Stockholm, is currently visiting the University of California at San Diego.

The chemistry prize was won by French-born Luis Leloir of Argentina. He will also get an equivalent of \$80,000.

Prof. Paul A. Samuelson of Massachusetts Institute of Technology was awarded the 1970 Nobel Prize in economics. The award was created last year by the Swedish

Central Bank.

Also, Norman Ernest Borlaug, American agricultural expert who helped the world develop better grains through the so-called "green revolution", was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

The 1970 Nobel Prize for medicine has been awarded to Swedish scientist Ulf Von Euler, Sir Bernard Katz of Britain and American scientist Julius Axelrod.

The three were awarded the prize, worth 400,000 crowns (\$76,800) "for their discoveries concerning the humoral transmitters in the nerve terminals and the mechanisms for their storage, release and inactivation," the Karolinska Institute said in its citation.

Von Euler, 65, is professor of physiology at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

The three are dividing the prize equally.

Their work has given answers to questions of fundamental importance for the understanding of the mechanism behind the transmission between the nerve cells.

EXTINGUISHER CAUSES DEATHS

A man told police in Kristiansand, Norway, he grabbed a handle to steady himself aboard a tanker and accidentally released deadly carbon dioxide gas which killed 12 Norwegian shipyard workers in the engine room.

Thirty-nine other men working on the 19,000-ton tanker Pollo were affected, some of them seriously, by the fumes which came from a fire-extinguishing system.

Police Chief Anders Eckhoff said the 27-year-old man had been welding near a safety box controlling the gas sprinkler system.

"To be interested in the changing season is a happier state of mind than to be hopelessly in love with spring." —George Santayana.

WHALE SCUTTLES SWEDISH SHIP

A whale made a hole in the 200-ton Swedish ship Vastanvind, which had to be abandoned by its four-man crew, the Spanish news agency Europa Press reported. A coast guard station said the master of the fishing boat Santa Man reported by radio he had picked up the four men plus a small dog Oct. 23, 38 hours after they abandoned ship.

Danish language teacher Ulf Oldenburg has been expelled from the Soviet Union after being caught at an illegal Baptists' prayer session in Tashkent, the Tashkent newspaper, Pravda Vostoka, reported.

SPORTS CORNER

BY OLE JENSEN

A general meeting of the Dania Soccer Club was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Aaquist on Oct. 19. An election of executives took place.

Tage Aaquist — President.

Soren Tottnip — Vice President.

Ole Jensen — Secretary.

Finn Laugesen — First substitute.

Jens Waller — Second substitute.

Trainer Kallmen Nagy has resigned. The new trainer will be Ron Churchlow. Bent Leth will be the team captain for the next year.

There will be indoor soccer training this season starting in January at Sacred Heart School. There will be some exhibition games from now until Christmas.

For any further information, or if you wish to play soccer, please phone Tage Aaquist at 475-3520.

U.S. - RUSSIA RESUME TALKS IN FINLAND

The United States and the Soviet Union resumed detailed negotiations in Helsinki, Finland, to curb the strategic nuclear arms race in an atmosphere which U.S. sources described as a constructive business-like and cordial manner.

The two delegations are headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Semenov of the Soviet Union and Gerard C. Smith, chief of the U.S. disarmament agency.

The talks began in Helsinki in November last year and then switched to Vienna, Austria, where the second phase ended Aug. 14.

SWEDES AID HANOI

The Swedish Red Cross has delivered or placed orders for \$8.4 million worth of goods for humanitarian aid to North Vietnam under a Swedish government program.

SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES AND USSR SIGN AGREEMENTS

The Scandinavian countries and the USSR have completed agreements which will make possible the start of Trans-Siberian service by Scandinavian Airlines and Aeroflot between Copenhagen and Tokyo, probably about April 1, 1971.

The Trans-Siberian operation will start with one flight a week by each carrier, but can be increased to two a week each.

The memorandum also provides traffic rights for Aeroflot between Stockholm and Copenhagen and via Scandinavia to London, Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam, and to two points each in North America and South America yet to be agreed upon.



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SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



BY EILEEN SWANSON

COMING EVENTS

December 5

Election of officers at 8 p.m. in the Nordic Room, Scandinavian Centre, followed by a Christmas Bingo.

* * *

BOWLING NEWS

Season High Scores

Ladies' Average — Betty McKevitt — 207

Ladies' Triple — Betty McKevitt — 734.

Ladies' Single — Louise Logan — 290.

Men's Average — Ed Veis — 202.

Men's Triple — Arne Gulbrandson — 794.

Men's Single — Arne Gulbrandson — 300.

Team Triple — Vikings — 3043.

* * *

We are sorry to hear of the passing of one of our past presidents, Mr. Einar Overland, on Nov. 2.

Mr. Arnie Gulland, a former

member of our lodge, passed away in Norway recently.

The Sick Committee is glad to report that the following are home from the hospital:

Mrs. Christ Hafstad.

Mrs. Ella Searl.

Joyce Myhre.

Warren Clark.

Selma Olsenberg.

Stephen Reno.

* * *

David Swanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Swanson, was married to Mary Sue Carter, Oct. 15. The marriage took place at Faith Lutheran Church, Little Rock, Arkansas.

* * *

A very enjoyable evening of Norwegian whist, and wine and cheese tasting was held on Nov. 7. Winners were: Bernice Baker, Camrose and Mr. Zelensky.

Consolation: Alvin Searl and Helma Bukur.

* * *

Next month's reporter will be Mrs. Edith Johnson, phone 489-3509.

BUFORD NEWS

BY AVIS I. PEARSON

Our Annual Pancake Supper was held after the October meeting.

Nominations of new officers were given at the meeting and we hope there is a good turn-out of members for election next month.

* * *

The Vasa Curling Club held a meeting to decide how many members would be curling this winter. The rest of the evening was spent playing cards.

* * *

Members on the sick list this month were Darlene Pearson and Hildur Pearson. They are both home again and well recovered.

* * *

Floyd and Peggy Modin have combined a Postal Convention and their holidays in a trip to London, Ont. While they are there they will visit many of Peggy's relatives and return home through the States.

* * *

The winners of the raffle held at our Fall Social was Johnny Weiting, first prize; Glenys Wronka, Leduc, second prize; and J. C. Brewer, third prize.

MOVIE DEPICTS NORWAY

The finest scenery in Norway will be seen in the giant wide-screen movie, "Song of Norway", which will be shown world-wide from November onwards. It is the story of Edvard Grieg's music, life and loves, depicting authentic locations mainly in Norway, but also some in Denmark, England and Italy.

The Norwegian government, city tourist boards, Scandinavian Airlines System and Winge Travel Bureau, Ltd., have joined forces to sell Norway as an international ski resort.

They hope to promote skiing and Norwegian Tourism generally through the movie which premieres Nov. 4. The movie, made by ABC Films, will be released in Canada by International Films and shown in six Canadian cities in December including Edmonton and Calgary.

National Park that we saw our first elephant crossing the highway. How wonderful, a picture to prove we were really close to elephants. Being a little nervous of this huge beast so close to our tiny car, we hastily took a picture and made a fast getaway just as the elephant's ears started flapping!

Many villages were visible from the highway. All huts were of straw, camouflaged by their color but varying in architecture from village to village, some with pointed roofs and some with round ones. Everywhere there were people on the road, emerging from the huts in rapid sequence at the sound of an approaching vehicle; some wanting a ride, some wanting to sell, and some just to watch.

How did the weather just south of the Equator differ from ours? Very little. The temperature was much like Alberta's summers, cool evenings and warm pleasant days. The fact that this was their winter, and the elevation of Nairobi is 7,000 feet may account for this temperate climate in July.

One big difference we noticed was the position of the moon, upside down to what we see it, and the sun shines from the north so when you think you are going west, you are actually going east.

After six days of safaris we said goodbye to Emily and the lovely Africa we had seen, with ten rolls of films to remind us of this holiday.

A JOURNEY TO REMEMBER

BY EDYTHE MARKSTAD

(Miss Edythe Markstad, Supervisor of the Outpatient Department of the University of Alberta Hospital, spent an unique holiday this year visiting the African continent, and in the following article shares her experiences with us.)

* * *

Watch for Elephants Crossing the Highway! A hoax? Not in Africa, as we were to find out shortly after seeing the sign. This was in Kenya, our second day out on Safari (motor trip to us). We had arrived in Nairobi full of stories we had heard about the animals, but scarcely prepared for the excitement of our first sight of an elephant close at hand, or of a giraffe standing calmly beside the highway, watching our arrival; and as if on cue, posed in the most graceful manner until our eager camera shutter had closed.

Upon arriving in this immense country, we were met by Miss Emily Awid, who has lived in Nairobi for three years as an employee of the World Bank. Our entire visit had been meticulously planned by her, and our short time there was packed with excitement.

Our first visit was to be to Nakuru Lake, noted for its large population of flamingos. As we left the modern city of Nairobi we were soon travelling through country much like the plains of our prairies, with one difference — lions. On the highway outside Nairobi, many Africans offered their wares to the passing motorists by stepping out onto the highway and displaying them to the wary and cautious driver, who had a choice of possibly hitting them or stopping.

We stopped once! So many persons, seemingly from nowhere, surrounded the car, all with different crafts to sell. Sheepskins, pottery, woven goods, eggs and fruit were shoved in front of the windshield, through the partly open windows and even over the rear window. After much discussion and several sets of place mats and baskets, we gradually moved the car ahead,

leaving many outstretched hands of disappointed people.

Our arrival at Nakuru Lodge was timed to be the best hour of the day to see the flamingos.

"Watch for a pinkish haze around the Lake," I was told, but from my vantage point it looked like a beautiful beach. Until we had driven several more miles ahead, the beach became an unbelievable moving mass of pink on the lake. Hundreds of thousands of deep pink flamingos chattering and diving. We were able to drive within 50 yards of the edge of the lake, and by quietly sneaking closer we reduced the distance by several yards before their wariness caused a fluttering of wings and they flew or swam to a safer distance. How many pictures did we take here? One could use a whole roll and still want to capture more of their beauty!

From Nakuru Lodge we proceeded to Outspan, the meeting place for people going to Treetops, known throughout the world because it was here a Princess became a Queen. After a bus ride of nine miles through the forest we arrived at a gate where, headed by an armed White Hunter, we walked the 100 yards to the lodge. It is truly in the treetops, having to climb steps to enter the lodge. Warned of the monkeys' agility and speed we were not surprised when a biscuit was snatched from the hand of a startled guest just before he was about to eat it.

The night of watching the water hole for the arrival of the animals began. First the waterbuck and bushbuck, then the water buffalo, the zebras, the rhinos and finally the elephants which appeared from the forest in countless numbers — the male keeping a close watch on his family, discouraging the advances of the lonely bachelor with a grunt and push of his trunk. One even becomes accustomed to the sight of so many elephants after so many hours, and the grunting and heavy footsteps outside our window finally lulled us to sleep.

It was on our way through Tsavo



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NORWEGIAN CHRISTMAS PROGRAM RADIO CKUA

Olaf Sveen —
Christmas is the Christian celebration in memory of the birth of Christ.

Since the middle of the fifth century it has been celebrated on the 25th of December.

Some of the customs connected with the celebration of Christmas is older than Christianity, and go back to old pagan fertility rites and offerings at the midwinter festivities.

Dr. Charles Bourassa of the University of Alberta is here to talk about these festivities, and my daughter Ingrid will ask him some questions on this.

Ingrid —
Christmas is meant to remind us of the birth of Christ. Pagans could not have had a Christmas, could they?

Dr. Bourassa —
You're right of course. Pagans couldn't have had a Christmas celebration. However, almost all pagans, at least in the north, did have festivals around the time at which we now celebrate Christmas. These celebrations took place near the time of the winter solstice. At this time the sun seems to rise and set in almost the same place for about 12 days. At this time all work ceased, especially work which involved rotating objects such as grinding flour, or spinning. The Nordic winter solstice festival was called **Jul**. This is the origin of calling Christmas yule time. The meaning of the word is quite uncertain.

Ingrid —
What kind of celebrations did they have? Did they exchange gifts and worship their gods?

Dr. Bourassa —
As the Norse in pagan time left few written records we are uncertain about the exact nature of their celebrations but apparently it was a period of gift giving, and some religious ceremonies were involved. One thing that makes it hard to gain information about ancient celebrations is that new customs creep in almost unnoticed.

For example, Rudolph the Red Nosed reindeer is a common fixture at Christmas now whereas a few years ago, before the song became popular, there was no Rudolph at all.

The Norse Jul celebration was probably associated with the god Freyr who was thought to bring good crops. Freyr had a boar called **Gullinborsti**, and perhaps the custom of eating a roast pig at Christmas is a remnant of an old custom of sacrificing a pig to Freyr at Jul time.

Thor, a god of warriors and a protector of the people, was probably also involved in the Jul festival. As you may know Thor's carriage was pulled by a goat and, in some current day festivals in Scandinavia, a goat is to be found. Written references don't go back beyond about 1543 but some people believe the presence of the goat to be a remnant of the pagan worship of Thor.

Horses were probably also involved in the Jul ceremonies. These animals were much admired by the Vikings and figure prominently in their mythology. For example, **Odin's** 8-footed war horse, and Freyr's sacred horses. The latter were probably a symbol of fertility. At the most important festivals horses were sacrificed and the flesh eaten. This was directly opposed to the Christian sacrament of the **Holy Eucharist** and, when Christianity reached the Norse, a determined and successful effort was made to end the eating of horse flesh. This seems to account for the present day distaste for horse meat.

It has been reported that many years ago in some areas of England, people went about with a horse's head (real or carved) on the end of a pole. The jaws were fixed so they could be snapped at people. Some have suggested this might also be based on some Norse rites. It is certainly reminiscent of the **Nids-tang** which Egil set up to curse **Eric Blood Axe**. In Scandinavia a **Julebuk** was sometimes used. This consisted of a buck's head which was used to butt children.

Jul was probably a family festival in which all members of the family would gather together to exchange gifts and have generous helpings of special foods. Cooked pigs, cold ham, blood sausage, head-cheese, baked cookies, etc. Probably there were expectations that some of the dead might return and beds might have been made up for them.

Ingrid —
How did the pagan Jul festival get associated with Christianity?

Dr. Bourassa —
Well, the church generally tried to absorb the pagan festivals into some kind of Christian celebration. This was an effective method of using an already existing festival time to get pagans to worship Christ. This method seems to have been very useful but of course it means that some pagan rites are almost bound to creep into the Christian ceremonies. For example in the **Heimskringla** we read that King **Haakon the Good** "made a law that the festival of Yule should begin at the same time as Christian people hold it; and that every man, under penalty, should brew a measure of malt into ale, and therewith keep the Yule holy as long as it lasted." Some Christians might question this way of keeping the Yule holy.

Olaf Sveen —
Thank you, Dr. Bourassa, and now Mr. Arne Johannesen, Norwegian Consul to Alberta, will tell us about how Christmas is celebrated in Norway nowadays.

In Norway Christmas is a remarkable blend of Christmas ritual and centuries-old pagan rites. Customs vary from district to district, though it is most often in the rural tracts of Norway that interesting holdovers from a bygone day add color to the Yuletide festivities. Common to all regions, however, is the thorough house-cleaning and the immense amount of cooking and baking which precede the Christmas feast.

The women scrub and bake for weeks. In many districts it is still a must to have 14 different kinds of cookies baked and on hand, a different kind for each day of the extended Yuletide celebrations. **Lutefisk** is, of course, the traditional dish on Christmas Eve.

On the farm the fall slaughtering is delayed until just before Yule. The Christmas pig, whose growth throughout the year has been carefully watched by all members of the family, plays an important role in the Yule ritual. Every part of the animal is used for some traditional dish. Several kinds of sausages, hams, cutlets, fats and trimmings, right down to the feet which are pickled in brine. Other chores must be done — wood has to be chopped for the first three days of Yule, the animals must be given an extra portion of feed.

On the farms all work must be finished by 4 o'clock in the afternoon when the village church bell rings in the period of Christmas peace. Before the family go to the table to eat their Christmas supper, the **Julenek** (a sheaf of grain) is hung out in the yard for the birds to feed on and porridge is taken out to the barn so that the small **Julenisser** will have their Christmas dinner. This custom goes back hundreds of years, when it was believed that the spirit of these nisser

would look after the animals in the coming year.

In the cities all factories are closed on Christmas Eve, stores and offices close at 1 p.m. This enables the people to go to the children's Christmas service in the churches starting at 4 p.m. When the service is over, the people go to their homes for their Christmas meal. After the meal the **Julenisser** (Santa Claus) will arrive and distribute the presents to the young and adults. During the evening a Christmas tree will be placed in the middle of the floor, old and young will join hands, walk around the tree and sing the traditional Christmas carols.

On Christmas Day it is early rising to be in time for morning church services. The peel of church bells sound far and wide, and in the countryside long lines of sleds or cars head towards the shrines of worship.

In many coastal districts this may involve many miles of rowing, providing the fjord is ice free. After the service there is a general shaking of hands and the season's greeting "**God Jul**" and then home to tables laden with food.

Christmas Day is a time for family reunion. The second day of Christmas is the time for friendly visits, Christmas caroling and general celebration. The third day of Christmas, the children go their traditional round of **Julebukk** (similar to our Hallowe'en) where they receive Christmas cookies, apples, oranges, nuts, etc.

Christmas in Norway comes to an end usually after 14 days of celebration.



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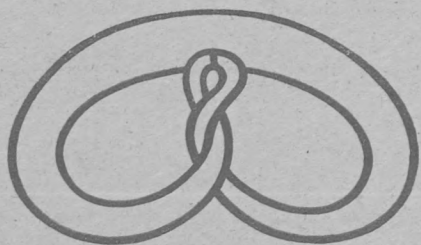
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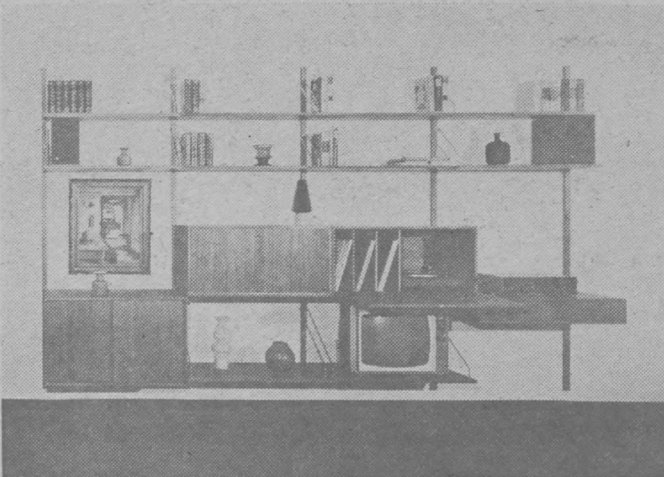
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